

# HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDE

PROCEDURE:	OPERATIONS	POLICY
TITLE:	Fire Department Vehicle Operations	O-18

**PURPOSE:** To provide a procedure for personnel to follow when operating Fire Department vehicles.

**PROCEDURE:** During an alarm, personnel respond to the station and then respond to the incident scene on fire apparatus. This guide sets forth expectations for the operator and passengers in these vehicles during emergency responses as well as non-emergency activities such as returning and training.

**DRIVER QUALIFICATIONS:** The department roster is conspicuously posted and shows which personnel are qualified to drive fire department vehicles. To drive a fire department vehicle, personnel must:

- Be at least 21 years old
- Posses a valid driver's license
- Be certified an "A,B, or C" level firefighter during the physical screening (see P-1)

The Fire Chief or designee will determine which personnel are qualified to drive and operate which vehicles. This information is posted on the roster. Newly qualified operators shall complete an approved Emergency Vehicle Operator's Course (EVOC). Operators who were qualified prior to 2002 are strongly encouraged to complete EVOC training.

**VEHICLE OPERATION:** During operation, the officer will assist the operator in ensuring safe operation. This includes enforcing procedures as well as supporting the driver, example: watching for traffic, ensuring intersections are clear prior to proceeding, etc.

*Seatbelts:* During operation, all occupants will wear seatbelts (if available) while the vehicle is in motion. The driver and officer are responsible for ensuring that occupants are properly restrained.

*Backing:* There shall be a spotter to assist the driver anytime the operator is backing the vehicle.

APPROVED BY:	Ross Hoham	EFFECTIVE DATE:	2/25/08
TITLE:	Fire Chief	LAST REVISION:	2/25/08

# HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDE

PROCEDURE:	OPERATIONS	POLICY
TITLE:	Fire Department Vehicle Operations	O-18

In the event of a crash involving a fire department owned vehicle which causes property damage or injury:

- The Fire Chief shall be notified (See A-2)
- All involved department personnel shall submit a written incident report to the Fire Chief within 24 hours, or as soon as practicable.
- Police report must be completed
- Depending on circumstances and severity of the crash, it is recommended that the operator be tested for drug and/or alcohol impairment immediately following the crash.

APPROVED BY:	Ross Hoham	EFFECTIVE DATE:	2/25/08
TITLE:	Fire Chief	LAST REVISION:	2/25/08